

(BOARD RESOLUTION IN BOLD)

Cedar Falls Historical Society
Board Meeting
July 20, 2009

Attendance: Don Redfern, Alan Bernard, Gale Bonsal, Dorothy Sheerer, Jeanine Johnson, Liane Nichols, Ann Eades, Daryl Anderson, Sid Morris, Johnny Dickenson, Cyndi Sweet, Ty Kimble, Jeff Kurtz, Joyce Coil, Joan Diamond, Rita Congdon, Cynthia Kenyon

Meeting was called to order by President Ty Kimble at 4:07.

New Business

Presentation from Jennifer Bettsworth on Green Americorp proposal.

This is a home energy education volunteer project. A group will train people on how to weatherize buildings. They would use one of our historical society buildings to show people how to do this which would be of benefit to us as one of our buildings would be weatherized. They would do an energy audit before the project began. This would help lower our utility bills. Gale B. indicated they did great work on 12 of his apartments. CFU will help and advise. All materials will be covered. There should be no cost to the historical society.

Liane N. moved, Johnny D. second to accept the Green Americorp proposal to use a building of the CFHS society to demonstrate how to weatherize buildings.

Financial Report

Al B. is now in charge of the accounting system. He will be working on the financial reports in the near future. The report format will change. There may be about \$11,00 to use for operating expenses that was found in the program fund and Carriage House CD. The treasurers report was presented, motion to approve by Don R., second by Johnny D. Motion carried.

Joyce C. moved, Joan D. second to use money in general fund from the Carriage House CD. Jeff will contact Ruth Ratliff and Bob Mancke to authorize use of CD.

Little Red School House has funds that could be transferred to CFHS. They need money for siding but what they do not use could be used in the general fund.

Ice House Recovery:

The Daisy Dairy has 1873 sq. ft. available for storage.

We are negotiation verbally with CF Schools and the UNI Museum to see if they would be interested in renting some of the space for storage.

Cyndi has catalogued the items in Dave Williams's barn. We need to move these items.

Sid M. will follow up with the Western Home to see about the Round Barn facility.

Joan D. moved, Liane N. second, to ask the city for an extension of time for our negotiations to buy the Daisy Dairy. Motion passed.

Ice House remodel plan from Split Rock where passed around the tables. It is still in the idea stage. Also looking a different flood protection plans.

Johnny D moved, Ann E. second to apply for the IJobs application with the City of Cedar Falls, if they are willing to work with us. This money is to be used for the ice house project.

Jeff K. needs something in writing from any group interested in provide financial assistance to the project.

Garden Tour:

Successful with over 300 attending, profit was \$2700. It was a beautiful day and thanks to the committee and volunteers for their efforts.

Sturgis Fall:

The Ice House was opened during Sturgis Falls. A number of people walked through the building and were interested and excited about the plans. Good attendance at the Victorian House and the Wyth House. In fact more at the Wyth House than Victorian House. Perhaps the croquet games on the lawn helped.

Korean War:

Cyndi S. is working on this display. She is getting good artifacts.

Committee Reports

Membership – Liane N. will be meeting with Carolyn Hamrock about membership structure.

Bus Tours – A new tour is planned to Mineral Point, Wisconsin in October. Ty K. suggested that we make a greater effort to get to the Western Home buildings this information.

Personnel – no report

Collections – printed report

Education – Rita C. reported on a successful and fun Little Red School house summer. Report also printed.

Archives – We are trying to find out more information on a house/school in Township #1.

Development – no report

Wyth House – Don R. moved and Johnny D second, motion to allow an Eagle Scout project to replace the front porch on the house.

Meeting adjourned at 5:14.
Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Kenyon



Where the Story of American Agriculture Comes to Life

July 16, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area strongly supports the application being made by the Cedar Falls Historical Society. The Ice House Museum is a designated Partner Site within the National Heritage Area and has been a strong, supportive partner.

The National Heritage Area is dedicated to telling the story of America's agricultural history, and the Ice House Museum is an important link to that story. During the devastating floods of June 2008, the Ice House sustained damage beyond any flood seen before and severely damaged the exhibits and interior. Over the past year, staff and community volunteers have worked tirelessly to save the collection, the building, and plan for its reopening.

Extensive research and thought has gone into the design currently proposed for the Ice House Museum. One of the most important factors considered was the choice of building materials for interior spaces and exhibits and how well they would withstand another flood. We believe this approach will serve as a model for other museums in Iowa to be better prepared for future disasters.

With your help, the Cedar Falls Historical Society will be able to rebuild the Ice House Museum and implement the new interior exhibit designs.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important historical resource.

Sincerely,

Don Short
President

Candy Welch Streed
Program & Partnership Director



Iowa Museum Association

July 15, 2009

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Executive Director
Cynthia Sweet

mailing address:
1118 Washington Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
319-238-2238
masweet@cfu.net

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Museum Association, I am writing to enthusiastically support the rebuilding of the exhibits in the Ice House Museum, one of the museums of the Cedar Falls Historical Society, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The Ice House Museum is a recognizable, iconic museum not only in Cedar Falls, but in the nation, one of a small handful of ice houses that survive to this day. Because of its uniqueness, it has been featured in both *Smithsonian Magazine* and on the television show *Modern Marvels*. Since the 1980s, the Cedar Falls Historical Society has carefully maintained the Ice House structure and the museum exhibits inside, successfully protecting them from many floods during those years.

The devastating floods which decimated Iowa and much of the Midwest in June 2008 were beyond any flood seen before, and unfortunately broke through the protections around the Ice House Museum and severely damaged the exhibits and interior. Since the water receded, staff and community volunteers have worked tirelessly in their efforts to save the collection, the building, and plan for its reopening.

A great deal of thought and effort have gone into the design currently proposed for the Ice House Museum. One of the most important factors considered was the choice of building materials for interior spaces and exhibits and how well they would withstand another flood, in the unlikely event of another 500-year flood.

Because of the importance of the Ice House structure, the uniqueness of the museum it houses, and the importance of maintaining both for the community, state, region and nation, I urge you to fund the Cedar Falls Historical Society's request for I-Jobs funds with which to rebuild the Ice House Museum exhibits.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Cynthia Sweet, Executive Director
Iowa Museum Association
(319) 238-2238
masweet@cfu.net

www.iowamuseums.org

Mission Statement

The mission of the Iowa Museum Association is to provide quality training and development to Iowa museum professionals and volunteers, advocate for support of member museums, and build a strong community of museums in Iowa.



Tourism and Visitors Bureau
8510 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

July 15, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: CEDAR FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY ICE HOUSE MUSEUM

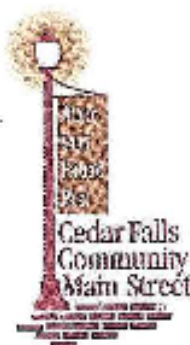
I am writing to urge you to support the reconstruction of the Cedar Falls Historical Society's Ice House Museum. Before the floods of 2008 the Ice House Museum was a popular stop for visiting motor coaches, a place to teach the collective history of our community to local residents and school children, and an important landmark at the entrance of our city.

The Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau believes in the restoration of this project enough to have contributed \$10,000 toward a study conducted to explore the best possible redesign and use of the museum. We are impressed with the plans proposed by Split Rock Studios and are extremely hopeful to see them come to fruition.

Restoration of the Ice House Museum also has implications beyond our local community. It is my understanding that the museum was one of only three round ice house structures still in existence. This project represents an opportunity to preserve an important piece of history for future generations. I urge you to support this project.

Sincerely,

Kim Burger
Division Manager



607 Main Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613
Phone: 319-277-0213
Fax: 319-277-9679
www.communitymainstreet.org

July 23, 2009

Jeffrey Kurtz
Executive Director
Cedar Falls Historical Society
308 W 3rd Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Dear Mr. Kurtz,

I am writing on behalf of the Cedar Falls Community Main Street organization in support of the Ice House Museum restoration.

As you well know, our organizations share a focus and passion for Cedar Falls and its rich history. At Community Main Street, we support your mission of historical preservation and see it as a key asset in the ongoing development and future success of Cedar Falls and our adjoining Main Street district.

The several museums within our combined geographic districts draw visitors and the local community alike to the area. The exhibits and features of each museum help to put a context around a visit to Downtown Cedar Falls and serve to preserve and extend our "community DNA" from past generations.

In particular, the Ice House Museum is a premier attraction for visitors and stands unique in its subject matter and exhibit execution. From its round shape to its apropos position along side the river, the Ice House Museum is a community treasure and a fascination to visitors of all ages. The museum provides a view into the community of our past in a very special way and serves to tie us to the river today as it did in the past. Not only is the Ice House Museum unique to Cedar Falls, we believe it is unique in the Midwest.

Please know that we support your organization's efforts in seeking the repair and rejuvenation of the Ice House Museum. We value the Historical Society's stewardship of this community and regional asset and offer our assistance as you pursue its continued presence at a quality level.

With best regards,

MaraBeth Soneson
Executive Director
Community Main Street
2063 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613



Downtown Cedar Falls — Where Good Friends Meet